

FIG. 3 is a top view of the foot part of the present invention.

DESCRIPTION OF A PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

Referring now to the drawings, the artificial foot and ankle joint includes foot part 1, ankle part 2 and a connecting bifurcated joint 3. The upper joint part 3b consisting of viscous elastic plastic and being almost U-shaped in cross-section, grips foot and ankle joint axis 4 from below and is immovably screwed to ankle part 2 by means of bolts 5.

The lower joint part 3a fastens a plastic socket 6 against the wooden part 1a of the foot 1. This plastic socket 6 is sprayed directly onto the corresponding lathed surface of the wood piece 1a, thus forming an integrated construction (FIG. 1).

In wooden part 1a of foot 1 a ring-shaped rubber articulator 7 is loosely inserted. Its side facing the toes forms the dorsal projection 7a and its lateral parts from the rotation surfaces 7b. The latter correspond to the dome-shaped articulation surface 8a of a plastic socket 8 which is sprayed directly on the lower plane end 9 of ankle part 2, and which serves as support for upper joint part 3b as well as a rotation plane for articulator 7 and as support for rubber knob 10.

The latter is inserted as an exchangeable part behind articulator 7 and acts as dorsally located plantar flexion. Foot part 1 is covered with cosmetic cover 1b which camouflages the gap in the joint 11.

What is claimed is:

1. An artificial foot and ankle joint, comprising a foot part having an upper surface including a plastic impregnated socket, an ankle part having a plastic impregnated lower surface including a centrally located plastic impregnated socket and surrounding plastic impregnated articulation surfaces, and a bifurcated joint connecting said foot part and ankle part, said bifurcated joint having a lower part which contains an articulation axis and is connected immovably into said foot part through said plastic impregnated socket of said foot part, said bifurcated joint having an upper part made of elastic material and generally U-shaped in cross-section which contacts said axis from below, said upper part being connected to said ankle part through said plastic impregnated socket of said ankle part, an elastic articulator between said ankle part and said foot part contacting said plastic impregnated articulation surface of the ankle part, said articulator having a central opening for receiving said lower part of said bifurcated joint, said articulator having only a front dorsal projection and side rotation surfaces for cooperation with said plastic impregnated articulation surfaces of said ankle part, and a separate, exchangeable resilient member between said ankle part and said foot part and behind said articulator for dorsal plantar flexion, said resilient member contacting said plastic impregnated articulation surface of said ankle part.

2. An artificial foot and ankle joint as claimed in claim 1 wherein a cosmetic cover is provided to cover gaps between said foot and ankle parts.

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